

# LYONS RENOUNCES ANSCHLUSS CLAIM

## Frustrated Emancipator, in a Last Sad Visit to Marble Hill, Hauls Down Bronx Flag

Striving to keep in mind the motto of the Bronx, "With malice toward none," the great emancipator, James J. Lyons, relinquished yesterday his claims to Marble Hill and the "snobbish Marble Hillians."

By way of making his decision final, the Borough President journeyed to 225th Street and Jacobus Place, Marble Hill, where, on a rocky promontory, his head bared to the chilly winds of the Harlem River Ship Canal, he began digging for the "Bronx tulip bulbs" that he himself last Wednesday had planted as a peace offering in celebration of that principality's "emancipation from the yoke of Manhattan."

Mr. Lyons had dug out about four spadefuls of dirt when a youngster looked up and remarked: "Don't bother, Mister, they're gone," and then disappeared himself.

A man of perseverance, Emancipator Lyons then called for the Bronx colors and held them aloft a moment with a sturdy hand. The winds howled and the flag waved.

"This is the last time Marble Hill views our flag," he emphatically announced, adding "henceforth this land," pointing to where the tulips had been, "is not fertile soil."

It was on this same rocky bluff that last March Mr. Lyons made his first putsch, planting the Bronx flag.

When, a few days ago, Mayor La Guardia recommended that Marble Hill become a part of the Bronx, the jubilant Mr. Lyons announced that he was laying plans for playgrounds, schools and libraries for the "good Marble Hillians." But his generosity went unappreciated. At the Board of Estimate meeting held to act on the Mayor's proposal, a group of Marble Hillians stormed the session and denounced the annexation. A plebiscite was decided on.

Emancipator Lyons is not interested in plebiscites. Legally and legitimately, the territory belonged to the Bronx, he contended. But he knows when he is licked.

"I can readily understand that the Park Avenue training of the President of the Council [Newbold Morris] would cause him to be most sympathetic toward the superior social ideas of this small minority group of Marble Hillians, who consider themselves the early settlers of Marble Hill and who constitute themselves spokesmen for all the good people of Marble Hill," Mr. Lyons proclaimed in a prepared statement.

Abraham Lincoln, the Bronx emancipator continued, "encountered some slaves who did not want to be liberated, so it is not surprising to find some Marble Hillians who would not want to be freed from the excessive taxation and who would resent the injection of the new and finer culture characteristic of the Bronx."

"We," he added, "have no room in the Bronx for the intolerant or snob."

Then followed the pronouncement:

"I have therefore decided to peacefully withdraw as the emancipator of the good people of Marble Hill and shall relinquish my claim and leave it to Park Avenue Newbold and other members of the Board of Estimate to deal with the recommendations of Mayor La Guardia."

With this Mr. Lyons gingerly made his way down the bluff, turned his back on Marble Hill and made his way back to the "Borough of Universities."